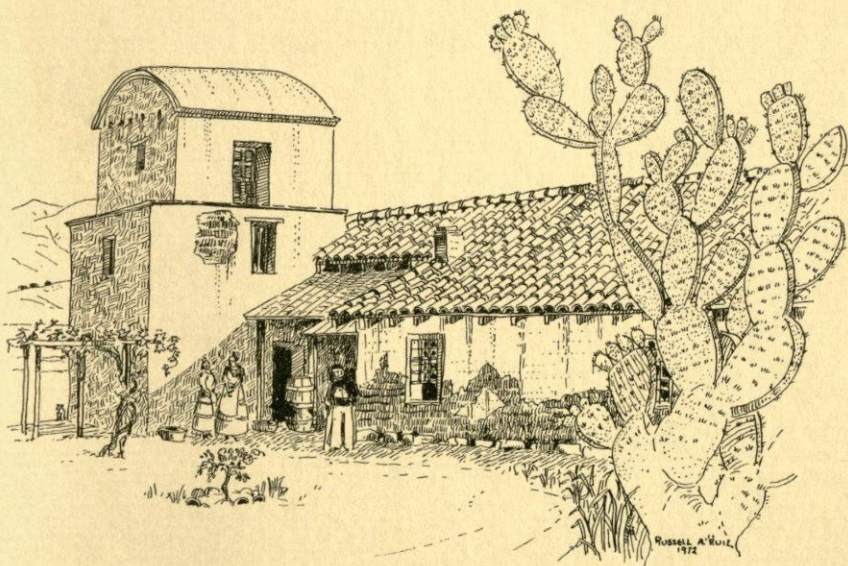
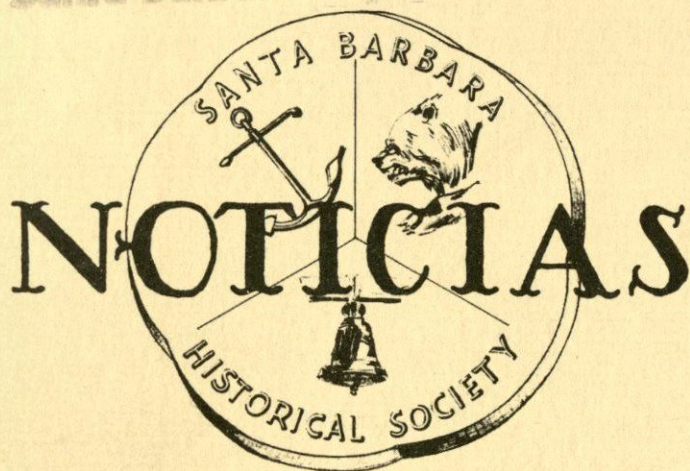


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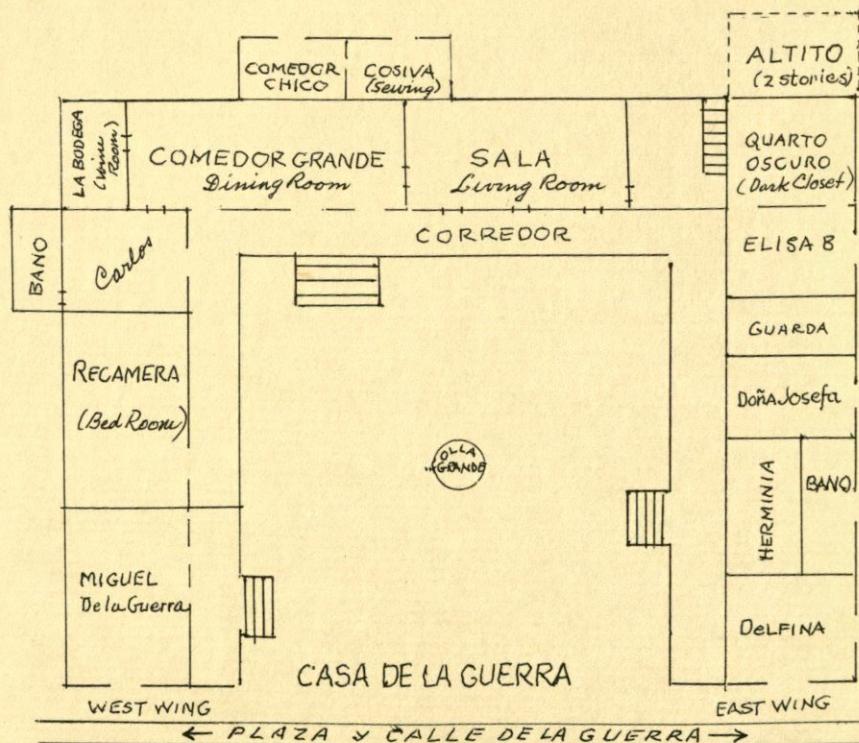
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De la Guerra House (Altito rear, right) circa 1890



From floor plan made by Mrs. Mercedes Dibblee Poett in 1964, remembered from 1886 to 1910.

Cover: Rear of De la Guerra House Showing Altito as originally constructed with barrel roof. Researched by artist-historian Russell Ruiz.

CASA DE LA GUERRA - SANTA BARBARA

Composed by the Reverend Joseph Thompson, O.F.M.

Edited by Maynard Geiger, O.F.M.

Following the publication of his *El Gran Capitan José de la Guerra* in 1961, Father Joseph Thompson, O.F.M., had intended to publish three more volumes relative to the De la Guerra family of which he was a member, being the great-grand-son of the well-known captain. This material had been prepared prior to his death in 1967 and was contained in three large loose-leaf binders readied for the printer but unfortunately not containing the necessary notes and references. Together with the original De la Guerra correspondence the Santa Barbara Mission Archive-Library fell heir to these prepared typescripts which the present editor felt should be used at least in part as occasion called for it. The material is a rich source of genealogy and family traditions as well as of information not readily accessible elsewhere. The present presentation gives a picture of the famous house itself still in existence in the heart of Santa Barbara as well as the mode of life that obtained in the past century. It is now part of the historic enclave in the city's center. Thompson's text is as follows:

LA CASA GRANDE

The homestead of the De la Guerra family in Santa Barbara was known as La Casa Grande or La Casa de los Noriegas. The house was perhaps three years in building, the foundation probably begun in 1819. It was finally finished in 1827, and the family moved into their new home on January 1, 1828, from the old residence of the *Comandancia* at the presidio.

According to a writer in the Santa Barbara *Independent*, July 13, 1909:

The occasion of the change was celebrated by a double ceremony: a religious one and a social one. The religious one was in the form of a solemn benediction of the whole building by the Reverend Fathers of the Old Mission; while the social affair was the entertainment of virtually the whole city by Don José who was then the jolliest of all the crowd. The fiesta was one of those celebrations well worthy of those patriarchal times, which generally lasted two or three days, sometimes even a whole week. On occasions such as these, the salient and worthy characteristics of hospitality, devotion and charity were the predominant marks of the Dons, and Don José was not to forget the chief of his own inclinations.

This same writer furthermore states that the master-builder or principal mechanic was one José Domínguez who came to California with Reverend Padre Junípero. If this be so, José Domínguez was far advanced in age to have undertaken such a responsible job.

Much of the timber that went into the building of the Casa consisted of mahogany and other woods brought up from Mexico in the De la Guerra's own vessels upon his return from Mexico in 1820 as representative of the California presidial companies. Other material, according to the author of *For the Sake of the Country*, Hattie Stone Benefield, was taken from a ship belonging to De la Guerra, which had been wrecked above Santa Barbara:

He sent his Indians to strip his wrecked boat of all the material that could be realized in the construction of his house. He would say to them: *vayan a la goleta y traigan tal y tal* ("go to the boat and bring such and such."). The mast was placed in the center of his flour mill, and the sails were used during harvest time in cleaning the wheat.

Rexford Newcomb in his book, *The Old Mission Churches and Historical Houses of California* gives some further details about the structure of the Casa:

The structure surrounds three sides of a patio with open corridors on all three sides. The Casa, like the buildings of the vanished presidio, stands several steps above the patio. Originally, the corridors extended the full length of the wings of the house, but subsequently, the end bays were walled up to form small rooms. The roofs of the corridors were at one time carried upon brick piers twenty inches square, but as an earthquake disturbed these, they were replaced by wooden posts. The walls of the house are of adobe and stand upon heavy stone foundations. Originally, they were plastered and whitewashed, but as time went on, wooden siding was introduced to protect the weathering adobe . . . Adjoining the passage that leads from the front door to the garden in the rear was the bodega (wine cellar) where the master of the house kept the choice wines which made his hospitality famous. His son, Don Pablo, who succeeded to the possession of the old mansion, was even fonder of fine wine than his father. The father, as master of over 200,000 acres, the producer of over \$100,000 worth of cattle annually, and one of the most prominent men socially, was compelled to entertain lavishly and often. A large bodega was therefore an essential under the prevailing social scheme.

THE ALTITO

There was an *altito* (a little upstairs) which has been erroneously called a tower. It was two stories high, and the upper story could have been designed as an *atalaya* or watchtower. The first story was used as an office where one could transact business without interruption, and was accordingly provided with two tables, the one for filing accounts, etc., the other for correspondence with the necessary equipment—quills, ink, sand to blot the writing and a student's lamp of solid silver.

In the upper part of the structure was Don José's library, consisting mainly of scientific, military and religious books. Among the De la Guerra papers are lists of works which go to show that the captain was in possession of an extensive private library. Some of these books were sent to him by his cousin, José Antonio Noriega of Mexico City; others were gifts of the Franciscan Fathers. One list, for example, shows the following books treating on religious subjects: *Finezas de Jesús Sacramentado Omilias de los Santos Padres, Instituciones Canónicas de Cabalarío, La Perfecta Casada, Vida de Cristo, El Filósofo Solitario, Soliloquios del Alma con Dios* and *El Profeta Evangélico*.

Upon the upper room of the *altito* was another, a playroom for the children, and from its windows they could watch the ships enter and leave the harbor. In order to enter the *altito* Don José would leave his room, pass through the *cuarto de abajo* (the room flush with the door of the house), and from there go upstairs.

The mansion also had *la huertita* (the little garden), which was enclosed by an adobe wall, roofed with tile and which extended from the corner of the house to present State Street and then at right angles to about fifty feet of the corner of Cañon Perdido Street. It was a flower garden with a few pepper trees. It was known as "Doña María Antonia's Garden" because it was the favorite spot of the captain's wife. In later years many valuable plants were added by the daughters of the family.

There was also *la huerta* (the big garden) in which grew grapes, figs, limes, several species of pears, peaches and apples, as well as vegetables for

domestic use. From this garden the charitable captain used to feed the poor. Here too, many of the picnics were held. Mr. Hawley, in his book about Santa Barbara, refers to this *huerta*, scene of so many picnics:

These were peace-loving, pleasure-loving people; and they enjoyed many festive days. Near the junction of Garden and Cota Streets was located what was known as the De la Guerra Gardens, formerly the private property of that family, where fruit and vegetables were grown for private use. But the shady trees that grew there luxuriously, and the many springs of water made them an attractive pleasure ground to the friends of the family, who included all the good people of the pueblo and who were frequently invited to celebrate some holiday.

In an interview given to Michael Phillips of the *Santa Barbara News* staff, August 17, 1931, Doña Francisca Dibblee, granddaughter of Captain de la Guerra, referred to *la huerta* as follows:

Our home was patriarchal. Several families lived in the De la Guerra house happily together. There was a long table in the middle of the dining room, and twenty to twenty-five sat at meals. The hospitality which was dispensed was as natural as breathing. All the friends, and there were many of them, were welcome at any time, and they knew it.

The fruits and fresh vegetables for our table came from the De la Guerra Gardens, gone these many years, but not forgotten by those who knew and loved them. The gardens were on the west side of the flat lands stretching for several blocks. They were entered by a narrow passage, and this had a small door at the end of it.

When the door was opened, the sweetness of the mingled perfumes came out to greet you like a caress. There were overhanging trees, green grass, fruit trees, vegetables, and a pool which was fed by a little stream and surrounded by willows. Often my father (Pablo de la Guerra) would take a bamboo and attempt to reach the bottom of the pool, but he could not because it was so deep.

Each morning the gardeners, two of them, would come to the De la Guerra house, carrying on their shoulders a great Chinese basket with the most delicious grapes, the mellow figs and the luscious peaches, still with the coolness of the dew upon them.

We had our picnics in the gardens. There was one spot set aside for them in a clump of pear trees. After such picnics we went back to the house for a dance. These dances were frequent. Sometimes a month would go by without one of them, and then they would be every week, even oftener. And between dances there was no running out in the veranda. The girls sat around the room like ladies until it was time to dance again. The modern girl will smile at this.

THE FURNITURE

Much of the furniture in the *sala mayor* (main salon) came from Boston, 'round the Horn': gold-lacquered mirrors, fine carpets, sofas, chairs, a marble center piece, and *rinconeras* (corner cupboards) made of rose wood and mahogany. The sofas held a prominent place in the drawing room and the chairs surrounded the walls. There were also old hand-painted *baules* (trunks).

In the dining room were two settees of some antiquity which came from Spain, one of which was a gift to the captain from the Mission Fathers. There was also a *serafina*, similar to a spinet, a small keyboard musical instrument of the harpsichord class in use from the sixteenth century to the eighteenth, each note having one string sounded by plucking with leather plectra attached to jacks.

In her recollections, Doña Francisca recalled how, during the fire that destroyed the house on the Rancho Simi, one of the ancestral estates, she

frantically remembered her *serafina*. At her insistence it was thrown from a second-story window and was caught by those gathered around the house. "I suppose," she so recalled, "we had the first *serafina* in Santa Barbara. I did not know whether it came around the Horn, but probably in a sailing vessel. The living rooms of the De la Guerra mansion were never locked. In the evening the young men would come in whether there was anyone about or not, and would carry off the *serafina* and would go from house to house serenading the *señoritas*. I know because I was serenaded myself."

Besides furniture from Boston and Mexico, the Casa was rich in Spanish lace mantillas, silks, gorgeous old satin and taffeta gowns, embroidered crepe shawls, scarfs, and magnificent bedspreads, products of Japanese workmanship elaborated in silk and embroidery, as well as the finest of linens. Then there were exquisite jewelry, fans and combs, one of which was made *de puro carey* (pure tortoise shell) and valued at \$600.00, all of which came originally from Manila and China and transported to California by ship from Lima, Peru, and Valparaiso, Chile. One can easily realize the excitement of the *señoritas* and *señores* upon the arrival of a vessel from those southern ports.

In the issue of the Santa Barbara *Independent*, July 13, 1909, we are told that a private school was established in the Casa, wherein Spanish, English and Latin were taught. There was no tuition although only the sons of the family and those of the brothers (the Carrillos) of Señora Noriega, as the wife of the captain was called by the Americans, attended. Likewise the sons of her intimate friends were admitted.

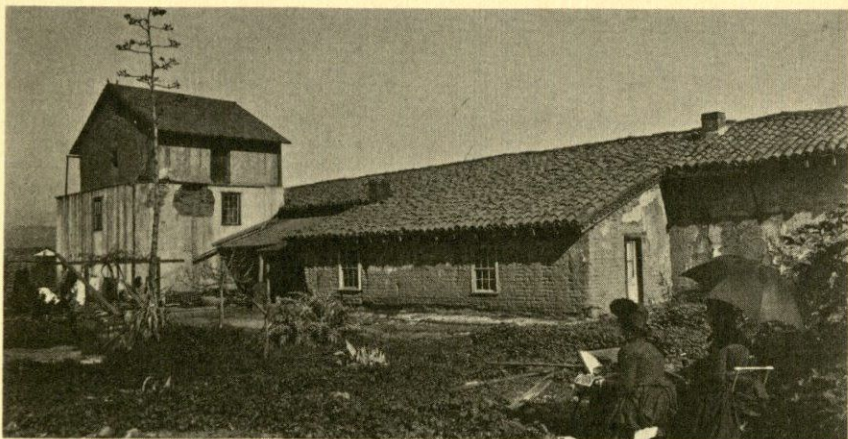
In the course of the years some of the boys rose to prominence in the state and they looked back with distinct satisfaction and happiness to these first instructions received in the De la Guerra mansion. Some of the sons went to Mexico, Chile, Peru and the East. Don Pablo and Don Francisco, sons of the captain, studied in Mexico; Don José Antonio, eldest son of the captain, attended college in Chile; Don Antonio María, another son, was educated in Lima, Peru; and Don Juan, his youngest son, went to Stonyhurst College in England. The two sons of Doña Angustias, daughter of the captain, José Antonio and Porfirio, spent several years in Georgetown College, Washington, D.C., as did also José Ramón, mentioned above.

DAUGHTERS TAUGHT HOME MANAGEMENT

The daughters of the Casa were taught home management, each taking a week's turn about as mistress; they were taught drawn work, samples of which could be seen in almost every California home, and they soon showed their natural adeptness for music and dance. When sisters opened a convent school in San Jose, the granddaughters were sent there to finish their education. Aside from the regular curriculum of the school, they received training as nurses, thereby fitting them to be always ready to help and cheer.

An item of much interest may be added here to show the vast activity that was carried on at the Casa, namely, a list of the various employments, together with the number of employees who were engaged in this household up to 1858, the year in which the captain died.

This list was given to a member of the family by Doña María Antonia Jimeno de Arata, a granddaughter of the captain, when she was eighty-four



Rear of De la Guerra House showing "Altito"

years of age. Not only did she remember the various kinds of employment, but also the number and names of those engaged in each department, as well as their nationality and the nicknames of some. The list of employments with Spanish terminology is herewith given:

LIST OF EMPLOYMENTS REMEMBERED

Keepers of the keys (*Llaveros*), coachman (*cocheros*), gardeners (*huertos*), cooks (*cocineros*), Those in charge of tortillas (*tortilleros*), bakers (*panaderos*), those in charge of chocolate (*chocolateros*), pages (*pajes*), woodcutters (*Leñeros*), soap makers (*jaboneros*), those in charge of tobacco (*cigarreros*), candlemakers (*velanos*), masons (*albañiles*), carpenters (*carpinteros*), those in charge of oxen (*boyeros*), sheep (*borregueros*), cows (*vaqueros*), hogs (*porqueros*), fishers (*pescadores*), blacksmiths (*herrerros*), shoemakers (*zapateros*), shopkeepers (*tenderos*), washwomen (*lavanderas*), ironers (*planchadoras*), servants (*criadas*), carriers (*cargadores*), those in charge of rope (*mecates*), of bellybands (*chinchones*), trees and bows of saddles (*fustes*), saddles (*sillas de montar*), flour-mill (*molina de harina*), chickens (*gallinas*), sausage (*chorizo*). There were also messengers (*mandaderos*). Also a *Mayordomo de la matanza* (slaughterer of cattle) with his assistants for hides and tallow (*cueros y manteca* or *cebo*). At times 500 head of cattle were slaughtered.

NINETY EMPLOYEES

In all there were over ninety persons employed. The majority were Indians. There were several Mexicans, one Spaniard (former officer), a Basque, one Negro, and of course an Irishman (John), a Peruvian and a Chinese. Some of the nicknames given are: *Huero Cupido* (the gallant blonde); *Cabo Tibor* (handle of chamberpot); *La Zorilla* (polecat); *la Bala* (bullet); *La China* (spinning top); *La Bonita* (the pretty one); *La Fierusca* (the cunning one); *La Pelona* (the dull one). A Chinese washerwoman was called *Na Bernarda*. The Indians and probably the Chinese employees pronounced señor and señora simply *ño, ña, ñor* and *ñora*.

Besides the industries established by the captain in his yards, he managed a store on Chapala Street where he sold general merchandise such as bread, sugar, soap, cigarettes, cigars and liquor. In the Casa he also had such commodities besides medicine. Upon José's invitation the Indians and poorer

class of the people came to his home where they would be given a bar of soap with a kindly word from him who in this manner impressed the recipients with the usefulness and need of bodily cleanliness.

Mr. Chase, author of *California Coast Trails*, makes a pleasant but erroneous observation about the De la Guerra home. This is what he narrates:

On a quiet side street I found another remnant of California's historic past, the old mansion of the De la Guerras, a family so identified with the city that its history might almost be said to be their own. I noticed over the main doorway of the house, in quaint lettering: *La Paz Sea En Esta Casa* (Peace be to this house) followed by the name of the family. There seemed an odd disparity between the sentiment and the martial name, for De la Guerra signifies literally Of the War. I wondered whether the incongruity could have been noticed by the old Don, who had the word cut there, or whether there may not have been some particular occasion for a little joke.

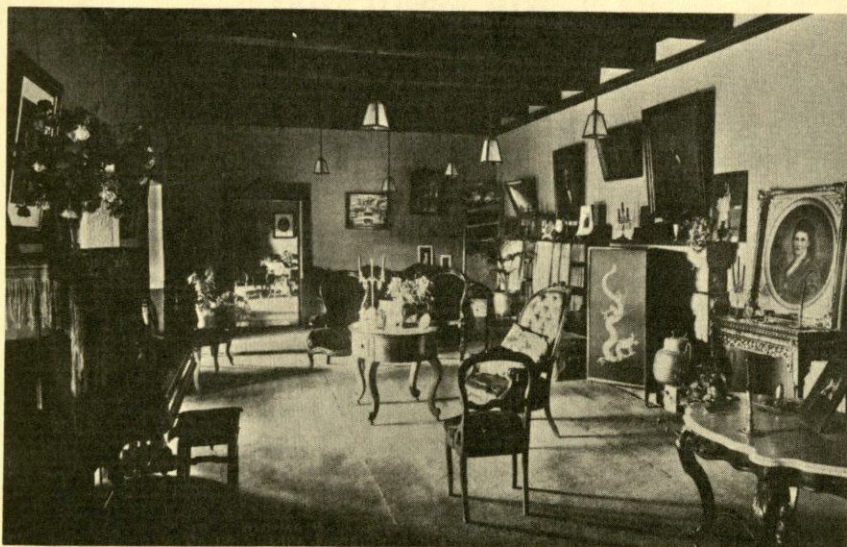
The author's observation is mistaken because this greeting over the door of the Don's home was most consistent with his name. Though the name De la Guerra does signify Of the War, yet the possessor of that name always stood for peace, national and domestic. He was the patriarch of his home and as such enforced peace in the household. Don José, the intimate friend, adviser and protector of the missionaries, took this greeting from them because the greeting *La Paz Sea En Esta Casa* is the very one which St. Francis, founder of the Franciscans, commanded his followers to say whenever they visited a house.

The De la Guerra family occupied their home for 115 years. In 1943, Delfina de la Guerra, granddaughter of the *comandante*, left the home where she had resided for 82 years and the Casa de la Guerra was vacant for the first time. She went to live with a friend, Mrs. Elizabeth Le Clerq Campbell, taking with her what remained of the attractive old Spanish colonial furniture and the *lares* and *penates*, family heirlooms which had adorned the old home for so many years. This granddaughter has since died.

During the declining years of her life in the Casa Grande she witnessed the revival of the carefree life that distinguished Santa Barbara during the early mission days under the Spanish and Mexican regimes, days marked by the picturesque beauty of its fiestas. This renaissance of life in those olden days came about by the vision and foresight of an easterner, Bernard Hoffman, who recognized the beauty of Santa Barbara's historical Spanish and Mexican heritage. But for his keen and generous interest, the De la Guerra house might have gone into oblivion. He restored the Casa and built about it the "Street in Spain" with its shops and courts and paseos and renowned *Restaurante del Paseo*. And thus the De la Guerra House stands there as a monument to this civic benefactor's memory and as a symbol of the glorious traditions that mark Santa Barbara as "Tierra Adorada."

The De la Guerra House has become the nucleus of an architectural renaissance and is a breath of old Spain still lending the faint warmth of its perfume to the life of Santa Barbara.

During Santa Barbara's annual Old Spanish Days Fiesta Celebration, El Paseo, the Street of Spain, and the patios of the De la Guerra Studios are thronged with costumed revelers, many of whom are the descendants of the Spanish families who came to Alta California in the Eighteenth Century. When the strolling musicians come through the courts it is difficult to realize that the days of the Dons are no more.



Sala of De la Guerra Mansion

*Paintings on right hand wall now in Historical Society Museum
 (Oval frame) Maria Josefa Moreno, wife of Pablo de la Guerra (1829)
 (Over mantle) José de la Guerra, by Leonardo Barbieri (1850)
 (Left) Don Pablo de la Guerra (Alcalde 1847)*

ADDENDUM

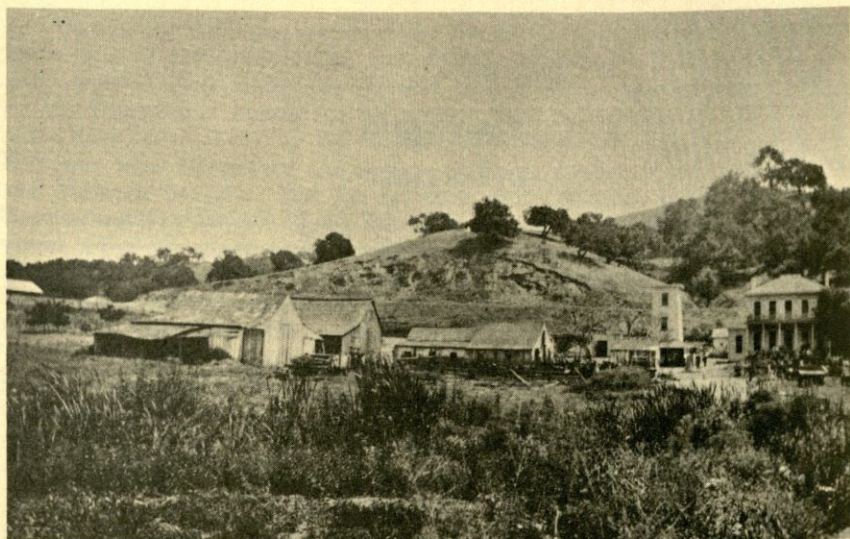
By the Editor

Today, Casa de la Guerra is surrounded by El Paseo, a restaurant and group of shops and offices designed in the Mediterranean style by James Osborne Craig for Bernard Hoffman in the 1920s. After a series of ownerships, this complex was purchased in 1961 by Thaddeus Suski who expanded the development. In December, 1971, his widow, Mrs. Irene Suski Fendon and the children, gave the Casa de la Guerra and some of the buildings surrounding it to the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation. Terms of the gift provide that the profits from operation of the development shall be used for the purpose for which the Trust was created, namely, to acquire, restore and maintain historic sites and structures in Santa Barbara County.

Although rooms in Casa de la Guerra are converted to commercial use, terms of the gift require that the architectural character of the buildings remain Mediterranean and the authenticity of Casa de la Guerra be preserved.



Hope House as restored, 1970



Thomas Hope House (looking South) circa 1914

THE HOPE HOUSE

The historic ranch house was built in 1875 by Thomas Hope at a cost of \$10,000. It was designed by Peter J. Barber, the first professional architect of Santa Barbara who also designed the Lincoln House (now the Upham Hotel), the original Arlington Hotel, the Dibblee mansion, the Mortimer Cook house, the Fernald house, (now owned by the Santa Barbara Historical Society), the John Alexander house, the first Court House and nearly 140 other structures in the city and county.

When Mr. and Mrs. George Obern first became interested in Hope House, it had been severely vandalized and was in a deplorable condition. Despite this, they fell in love with the place and in March of 1968 they bought the house and 7½ acres of land surrounding it, together with numerous out buildings that had been used when it was a working ranch.

The estate became their 25th wedding anniversary gift to themselves and it immediately presented an enormous challenge to rehabilitate the place.

An official building inspection revealed that the house was structurally sound but in dire need of repair.

With the cooperation of many friends and interested organizations, authentic materials salvaged from old houses, antique shops and wrecking concerns were located. Every window, for example, had to be taken down and re-glazed. Seven missing doors were replaced. The original front door was found and installed. Eighteen Victorian chandeliers, 29 door knobs, 105 stair spindles and scores of other things had to be found.

A new kitchen, bathrooms and a furnace were a few of the other necessary jobs that needed doing before the house could become livable. Every effort was made to restore the house to its original condition as nearly as possible.

The only source of heating had been the fireplaces. To make the one in the front parlor usable for wood (they had been planned for coal) a Franklin stove was installed. The marble facing for the main fireplace had been destroyed, but the mantle was found and returned to its proper place.

There was an enormous rehabilitation job to be done, what with painting, papering and furnishing, it seemed never-ending, but finally, on December 15th, 1968 the Oberns invited five hundred neighbors and friends from Hope Ranch and elsewhere to visit the refurbished house.

The following April more than 1000 visitors went through the house when the local transit company ran a special bus out to the Hope and Stow houses to commemorate Santa Barbara's birthday. On August 10th, 1969 the house was again opened for public inspection when the two parlors of the Native Daughters of the Golden West presented and unveiled a handsome bronze plaque dedicating Hope House as County Landmark Number Ten, with Supervisor Daniel Grant and Mr. George Obern officiating.

Miss Marjorie Hayes has made an exhaustive study of the Ranch, the Hope House and of Thomas Hope. Her story follows—Ed.

HISTORY OF HOPE RANCH

By Marjorie Hayes

The first owner of Hope Ranch was Lt. Narciso Fabregat of the Santa Barbara presidio. He had come north from Mazatlan, Mexico, in command of the reinforcements sent to augment the Santa Barbara garrison after the 1818 Bouchard raid and in 1824 it was he who was assigned the task of subduing the rebelling Mission Indians in the Tulare Country and of returning them to their various missions in the south. Before he received his grant he owned an adobe in Santa Barbara at State and Canon Perdido Streets which was later to house the Lobero saloon.¹ Fabregat petitioned Governor of California Manuel Micheltorena and received the grant to the 3,382-acre "La Calera", (lime kiln) on May 16, 1843.² The Mission Fathers had operated the kiln early in the century, producing lime from limestone and seashells to be used in mortar for their extensive building, including that of the original Santa Barbara Mission. The kiln's refuse piles and ruins still can be found in the underbrush on Las Palmas Drive.³ On August 12, 1845, Fabregat transferred his title to the land to the American Thomas M. Robbins and his wife's sister, Manuela Carrillo de Jones.⁴ Ownership subsequently reverted to Robbins alone and on July 1, 1846, he added to his holding with a half-square-league, or 3,281.7-acre grant of "Las Positas", (little springs) given to him by Pio Pico.⁵

ROBBINS CAME IN 1830

Robbins had come to California in 1823 and around 1830 he settled in Santa Barbara, opened a store and married one of Carlos Carrillo's daughters, Encarnacion. He was awarded an honorary captain's commission in the Mexican Navy as a result of his 1837-39 command of the schooner "California" in the service of Alvarado and Vallejo and apparently later settled down to being a shopkeeper, well-known for his good nature and hospitality by the traders and seamen who used his store as a general gathering place. The captain was overtaken by apoplexy and his estate was so terribly mismanaged by his son-in-law that after Robbins' death in 1857⁶ his widow decided to sell the ranch.⁷ Thomas Hope bought it in 1861 and upon his death it was divided essentially in half, the present Hope Ranch in the portion which was left to his widow. In 1887 she sold her holding, which included the new ranch house, (Hope House) to the Pacific Improvement Company, a subsidiary of the Southern Pacific Railroad. Shortly thereafter, the branch line from Saugus Junction to Santa Barbara was completed⁸ and the original tracks, running along the present Vieja Drive, apparently twisted through the ranch outrageously because the building contractor was paid by the mile. Most of the zigzagging of the old road was straightened out when the railroad finished its coast route in 1901.⁹ And from 1894 until 1901, when this final route was settled upon, the Southern Pacific actually held the title to the Pacific Improvement Company's Santa Barbara holdings — they had been turned over to the railroad by Henry Huntington, president of the P.I.C.¹⁰

The P.I.C. bought the property primarily to gain the right-of-way but early in its ownership it laid out large plots and began planning for a fash-

ionable residential community. Jack K. Harrington was the Southern Pacific's Hope Ranch promoter and during his management he began the policy whereby scenic roads were laid out around Laguna Blanca, extensive ornamental planting was done (with a \$200,000.00 budget for landscaping alone)¹¹ including the palms which line the present Las Palmas and Marina Drives, and a huge nursery (the plants provided by Franceschi) was established on the ranch to provide for further development.¹² In conjunction with its beautification program, the railroad also began a profitable ranch operation by raising cattle and by planting lima beans, hay, grain, and 120 acres of walnuts,¹³ some of which are still producing in the Hope Ranch Annex. The P.I.C. even secured a private water supply in the mountains which was brought to the ranch via the Pierce Tunnel to a two million gallon reservoir whose overflow kept Laguna Blanca filled as well.¹⁴

The P.I.C. planned to center their exclusive community around a luxury hotel, a project it announced in May, 1887.¹⁵ At that time, land values were at their peak and the railroad expected to sell its homesites quickly and at a fine profit, but prices dropped rapidly at the end of the century and there was no market for Hope Ranch property.¹⁶ So, the fabulous hotel never materialized and the luxury community had to wait a quarter of a century to appear.

In 1919 the P.I.C. sold Hope Ranch to Maurice Heckscher, a New Yorker, and it was managed by James Edwards,¹⁷ as Heckscher remained based in the East. In the early '20s Santa Barbara Estates, Inc. and La Cumbre Estates Corporation were formed to purchase portions of the property, largely under the direction of Harold S. Chase, and the Hope Ranch of today was planned and developed. Both the La Cumbre Estates Corporation and Santa Barbara Estates, Inc., sold out to Howard Vesey in 1962 and he disposed of at least part of his holdings in 1965.

THOMAS HOPE

The last real rancher to work "Las Positas y La Calera" was Thomas Hope. He was born in Meath, Ireland, in 1820, and he immigrated to the United States when he was sixteen years old. Around 1838 he was learning the sheep and cattle business in West Texas and soon thereafter he traveled through Santa Barbara on his way to northern California.¹⁸ In San Francisco he married Delia Fox, an Irish woman, and the couple profitably operated a boarding house during the early part of California's mining era.¹⁹ Hope returned to Santa Barbara with his wife around 1850. He had remembered the area because it had reminded him of his native Ireland.²⁰ For about a year he worked for Nicholas Den, and later he rented land in the Cieneguitas to pasture his own flock, which he managed himself until he accumulated too many sheep for one herder.²¹ By 1860 his animals numbered close to 5,000 head.²²

At this time, Thomas Robbins' widow decided to sell her floundering ranch, but there was no market for land. Den, a close friend of Robbins, offered to buy the place but at the last minute his wife decided that the purchase was not feasible because her father, Daniel Hill, owned an adjoining grant and the property lines between the two never had been defined clearly. She was afraid that intra-family disputes would arise someday over the un-

settled boundary. So, Den approached Hope, whose sheep were on land bordering on "Las Positas y La Calera" and Hope finally agreed to buy the ranch for \$8,000.00.²³ He had already bought 400 acres from Richard S. Den at \$5.00 an acre, paid in gold coin, and in 1863 he purchased land from the City on the mesa adjoining "Las Positas" for 75c an acre.²⁴ He must have been illiterate at the time he bought "Las Positas" because he signed the deed with an "X".

During the first half of the 1860s Hope prospered, making a fortune when the Civil War forced sheep prices high. He even possessed fine horses, as evidenced by the fact that he owned some of the most famous animals of his time — Selin, Harry Lazarus, and Honest John — which he raced on the track near Laguna Blanca, purportedly the first in California designed for flat racing and for trotters and pacers.²⁵ His prosperity also brought him to the point of building a professionally-designed and very expensive Victorian home which, unfortunately, was not finished in time for him to enjoy it before his death. During their early years at "Las Positas y La Calera" the family apparently lived in an adobe close to the eventual site of the mansion. Hope's first child, John M., was born about 1861, followed by Rosa in 1862, Mary Teresa in 1863, Anna M. in 1865, Kate M. in 1867, and James C in 1868.²⁶

Hope appears to have been something of a caricature Irishman. He was, of course, a devout Catholic²⁷ and in the early '70s he donated a parcel of land, now the site of La Posada Juvenile Hall on Hollister Avenue, to the Church as a burial ground.²⁸ The Mission had been using its Micheltorena-Salsipuedes cemetery but as Santa Barbara grew, people objected to having the burials so close to the town, and eventually a city ordinance was passed to prohibit its further use. Rev. James Villa, the president of the Mission,²⁹ ignored the directive and so, in September, 1873, the Grand Jury was forced to make a presentment regarding the problem. After that presentment, burials began taking place on Hope's roughly triangular 6-acre plot which was used until 1896.³⁰ Hope had transferred the title to the Church with the stipulation that if the land ever ceased to be used as a cemetery it automatically would be reincorporated into the Hope holdings, but when the church moved its burial operations, it managed to retain ownership. In 1930 the Church supposedly moved most of the graves, leaving only enough to maintain the land's tax-free status as a cemetery,³¹ but when grading operations were underway for relatively recent construction on the plot, the workmen are said to have turned up a quantity of human remains.³²

In the same year that he presented the cemetery to the Church, Hope donated a right-of-way to the public and on it he laid out a 100-foot-wide road (now part of Hollister Avenue) which ran from the Cieneguitas Swamp to the old stage road (or from the present commercial and residential areas around Modoc Road and the Freeway to the junction of Turnpike Road and Hollister).³³

"Tae" Hope's temper was as Irish as his religion. In 1871 the county decided to build a road from Mission Street, then the most northwestern boundary of Santa Barbara City, to La Patera, Hope's area, skirting "Las Positas ya Calera". Hope immediately objected, claiming that the government had erred when it had laid out the grant's boundaries originally and that the

proposed route of the road was therefore on his property. Barker, the town surveyor, was appointed to lay out the road, but when he moved his equipment to the site he was confronted by an enraged Thomas Hope and his two henchmen. Hope refused to allow work to proceed and when Barker persisted, Hope clubbed him. When Barker returned to town to bring charges against him, he found that Hope had already been there and had paid a \$25.00 fine. The surveyor felt that that was not recompense enough, and, in 1872, Hope was forced to pay an additional \$1,000.00.³⁴

This incident appears to have been the grand finale of a long and spirited struggle over the road's construction. It is interesting that one of its main proponents was P. J. Barber, who later designed Hope's house. The road was even called Barber Road by some. However, the designation that stuck was Modoc Road, chosen because the fight in Santa Barbara over its construction, and especially Hope's assault on Barker, coincided with the Modoc Indian rebellion in Northern California.

Hope was the Indian Agent in Santa Barbara.³⁵ He was appointed in the '70s to try to salvage the small Indian population that was left, and evidently both he and his wife made a real effort to better the lot of his charges. The Indians had collected in the Cieneguitas Swamp, probably around 1803 when the Mission friars had them build a small chapel there so they could attend Mass and receive instruction.³⁶ The Chapel was close to the present railroad bridge across Hollister Avenue and its ruins were in evidence until quite recently. The little village surrounding it was called Sagspileel Reservation and it was, in essence, the last hold-out of the Canalinos. Justo, a regular companion of Hope's, was the head of that little remnant of the Chumash³⁷ and was one of the two men who accompanied Hope at the Modoc Incident.³⁸ After the County won the road battle and built the road on top of the Indians' refuge, Justo fled by himself to the heights of Refugio Pass and spent the rest of his life in that wilderness, seldom returning to the lowlands.³⁹ His son, Juan Justo, was considered to have been the last of the Chumash for a number of years but since his time, another — Thomas Ignacio Aquino — was located.

BOUNDARIES OF INDIAN HOLDINGS

There is on file with the U. S. Department of Interior a letter, written by Hope as early as 1854, in which he said that he had established boundaries to the Indians' Cieneguitas holdings and that since they had held the property for twenty-five years, their claim to being able to keep the land and work it was legitimate. The letter continued, "I would suggest that you send them some farming utensils . . . in order to induce them to stay at home (as some of them are very destitute of clothing and provisions) or they will necessarily be compelled to hire out about the town and they will return to their old habits again. I have collected 55 of the men that belong to the tribe, and 62 females, and they are all greatly pleased at their return to their old homes. I stated to them that it is the intention of the Government to take care of them and protect their property and persons from the ravages of the vicious whites, who have never permitted them to keep a horse or cow of their own . . ."⁴⁰

Thomas Hope died at his home on January 11, 1876.⁴¹ A popular story was that he had been poisoned, but the whole matter was kept very quiet.

He was buried in Santa Barbara on Friday, January 14, after a Requiem High Mass at the Catholic Church. His funeral was apparently well-attended as the newspaper described a cortege of over thirty carriages.⁴² Then, in 1892, Thomas W. Moore was given permission to exhume Hope's remains and move them to San Francisco for reburial.⁴³

RANCH DIVIDED IN HALF

In his will of December 14, 1875, Hope divided his ranch into two parts—one half for his widow and the other for his six children — and named Delia, Captain Thomas Moore and P. W. Murphy the executors. He very carefully inserted a safety clause, stating that “. . . it is further my will that should any of my daughters marry a worthless drunkard or spend-thrift, that her part be held in Trust by my beloved wife Delia . . ., my said daughter only drawing the interest of said share for her maintenance (sic) and support. Should there be children from such marriage then it is my will that the mother's share should go to her children share and share alike.” At that time, his possessions extended from the present West Valerio Street to the More Ranch (More Mesa) and from the Ocean to about the present Hollister Avenue. The western half of the ranch, including the big house, went to his wife while the eastern portion was divided among the children.

Teresa married Thomas William Moore, son of Captain John Moore of the British Navy who commanded the “Surprise”, the ship from which Francis Scott Key watched the bombardment of Fort McHenry. Rosa married a Bigley and later an O'Brien, Anna married Cassimir Etchebarne, a Basque sheepman from Mexico, and Kate married a Clark. The only documented Hope grandchild was Anna's son, Cassimir, who was electrocuted in his bath when he was around thirty years old.⁴⁴

In 1887 Delia Hope sold her half of “Las Positas y La Calera” to the Pacific Improvement Company, a holding company for the Southern Pacific Railroad. She insisted on being paid the \$250,000.00 purchase price in gold coins and Mortimer Cook, president of the First National Gold Bank, delivered the money in person, riding in a buckboard with a shotgun-carrying guard. Mrs. Hope sat at a marble-topped table and tested every single coin to make sure they all rang true. She set aside \$20,000.00 worth as inferior and the bank had to make them good.⁴⁵

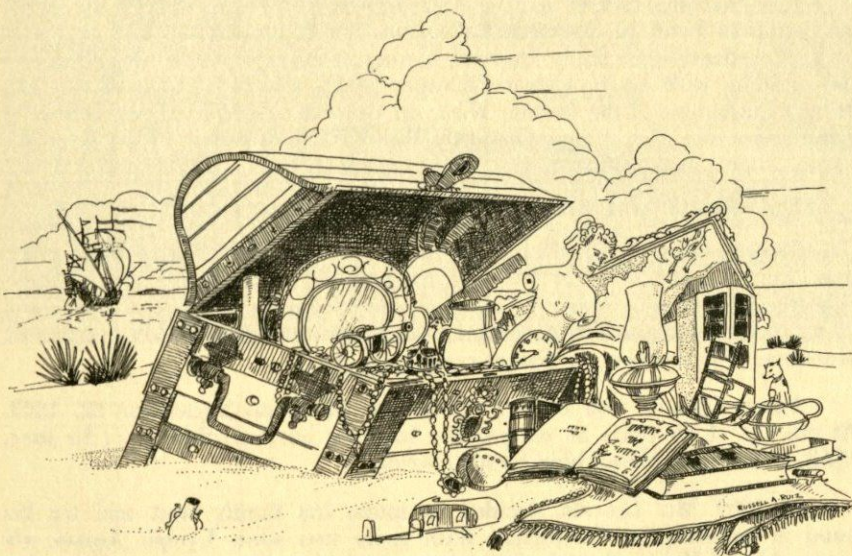
Delia Hope's sale of her part of the land essentially marked the beginning of today's Hope Ranch—as of that time it was no longer a working ranch in the traditional sense of the term. There were no living heirs so the Hope line no longer exists in Santa Barbara.

FOOTNOTES

1. Walker A. Tompkins, *Yankee Barbarenos* (Los Angeles: Samuel B. Mosher Foundation, manuscript form, 1965), p. 672.
2. Katherine M. Bell, *Swinging the Censor* (Santa Barbara: 1931), p. 206.
3. Tompkins, *Yankee Barbarenos*, p. 672.
4. There is confusion as to the sequence of owners during this period. Tompkins (*Yankee Barbarenos*, p. 672) states that Fabregat conveyed his grant to M. Carrillo de Jones in 1845 and on June 7, 1853, “. . . the Joneses conveyed title . . . to Pablo de la Guerra, who the next day signed the property over to Dona Encarnacion Carrillo de Robbins, wife of Thomas M. Robbins . . .” However, O'Neill and Bell have the property passing directly from Fabregat to Robbins and his sister-in-law and their time scheme seems to fit the rest of the evidence more accurately.

5. Bell, *Swinging the Censor*, p. 206.
6. Again, there is a discrepancy regarding the date of Robbins' death. Tompkins states that he "died in the summer of 1854" but in the "Recollections of William A. Streeter, 1943-1878", *California Historical Society Quarterly*, p. 174, it is set in 1857, and as the next owner took over in 1861, the latter is the more credible date.
7. *California Historical Society Quarterly*, "Recollections of William A. Streeter, 1843-1878", June 1939, p. 174, No. 35.
8. Tompkins, *Yankee Barbarenos*, p. 674.
9. Walker A. Tompkins, *Santa Barbara Yesterdays* (Santa Barbara: McNally & Loftin, 1962), p. 41.
10. Harold S. Chase, *Hope Ranch* (Santa Barbara: Santa Barbara Historical Society, 1963), p. 21.
11. Walker A. Tompkins, *Santa Barbara's Royal Rancho* (Berkeley: Howell-North Books, 1960), p. 245.
12. A. D. Shepard, *Hope Ranch, Santa Barbara, California* (Pacific Improvement Company, 1909), p. 37.
13. Chase, *Hope Ranch*, p. 23.
14. Shepard, *Hope Ranch*, p. 38.
15. Chase, *Hope Ranch*, p. 20.
16. Owen H. O'Neill, *History of Santa Barbara County* (Santa Barbara: Harold McLean Meier, 1939), p. 384.
17. Chase, *Hope Ranch*, p. 66.
18. O'Neill, *Santa Barbara County*, p. 383.
19. Charles Thomas Pierce, tape of personal interview with Mr. & Mrs. George Obern at Hope House, 19 Aug. 1968.
20. O'Neill, *Santa Barbara County*, p. 383.
21. Bell, *Swinging the Censor*, p. 208.
22. Thompson and West, *History of Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties, California* (Berkeley: Howell-North Books, 1961), p. 122; U.S. Census, *Eighth Census*, 1860, manuscript returns, Santa Barbara County.
Both O'Neill and Bell estimate the flock to number 2,000 but it seems that official statistics compiled at the time would be more reliable.
23. Bell, *Swinging the Censor*, p. 208.
Both O'Neill and Bell support this version of Hope's acquisition of his ranch but Charles Pierce and Walker Tompkins have another. Pierce maintains that Hope went into the sheep and cattle business for himself as soon as he came to Santa Barbara and Tompkins (*Yankee Barbarenos*, p. 673) states that "in April, 1861, Robbins' widow advertised the ranch for sale in San Francisco and Los Angeles newspapers. The highest bidder proved to be . . . Thomas M. (?) Hope, who paid \$8,000.00." But the 1860 census return puts Hope in Santa Barbara with a huge flock of his own, a year before he bought Las Positas y La Calera, and so the version in which he lived here for several years prior to his purchase of the ranch seems the most reasonable.
24. O'Neill, *Santa Barbara County*, p. 383.
25. Chase, *Hope Ranch*, p. 39.
26. These are approximate dates only as there is no agreement as to the children's ages. The 1870 Santa Barbara County Census, Book III, p. 165, lists Thomas Hope, 49; Delia F., 30; Rose, 10; Mary, 7; Anna, 5; Kate, 3; James, 1. In 1880 (p. 526) the listing is Delia Hope, 48; Johny, 19; Rosa, 18; Annie, 15; Kate, 13; James, 12. So, not only are the names slightly different and each list is missing one (different) child but Delia aged 18 years between 1870 and '80 while Rosa was only 8 years older. Tompkins (*Yankee Barbarenos*, p. 673) declares that ". . . Anna and Katie, had died at the ages of 10 and 8 respectively" but both of them are older than that on the 1880 Census and according to Charles Pierce, the Wright *Abstract*, and others, both eventually married. Anna even had a child and Pierce remembers her as an old woman. O'Neill (*Santa Barbara County*, p. 384) further complicates the problem by adding a seventh child, Clark, but he does not appear in any other list and since Kate Hope married a Clark it seems safe to assume that O'Neill was just confused on this point.
27. *Santa Barbara Index*, "Death of Thomas Hope", 20 Jan. 1876.
28. Charles Pierce.
29. Thompson and West, *Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties*, p. 166.

30. Maynard Geiger, *God's Acre at Mission Santa Barbara* (Santa Barbara: the Franciscan Fathers, 1958), pp. 30 & 32.
31. Tompkins, *Yankee Barbarenos*, p. 673.
32. Charles Pierce, personal interview with the author at Pierce's Santa Barbara home, 18 May, 1969.
Vivian Obern, conversations throughout 1969-70.
33. Chase, *Hope Ranch*, p. 11.
34. Tompkins, *Yankee Barbarenos*, pp. 516-18.
Thompson and West, *Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties*, p. 159.
35. Chase, *Hope Ranch*, p. 4.
36. J. J. O'Keefe, *The Buildings and Churches of the Mission of Santa Barbara* (Santa Barbara: Independent Job Printing House, 1886), pp. 16-17.
37. O'Neill, *Santa Barbara County*, p. 383.
38. There is confusion as to whether it was Justo I or his son who was with Hope but it seems more likely that it was the elder. The *Santa Barbara News-Press* (5-12-41) said "Juan's father, known only as Justo, was a big man among his people—big even in size for he was a towering giant, weighing more than 300 pounds, if accounts of those who remember him are to be taken seriously. Justo was head of the little group of Indians that sought to make a last stand at what now is the junction of Cieneguitas Road and Hollister Avenue. . . . John (sic) Hope, of Hope Ranch, opposed the road . . . Justo, the elder, hurried to Hope's support . . ." The *News-Press* (2-4-62) recorded Juan Justo's death as occurring on May 5, 1941, at the age of 97, which would have made him 27 in 1871—old enough to have helped Hope. However, the Our Lady of Sorrows Baptismal Register has the entry "In the year 1858 on the 22nd day of November I baptized solemnly a child, son of Justo and (Cecilia). To this child I gave the name of Juan de Jesus." This is likely the more reliable documentation and it makes Juan Justo only 13 at the time of the incident.
39. *Santa Barbara News-Press*, 12 May 1941, p. 7.
40. O'Neill, *Santa Barbara County*, p. 383.
41. Register of Deaths, Santa Barbara County, B 1888-1910, p. 25, line No. 649. *Santa Barbara Index*, 12 Jan. 1876, p. 3.
42. *Santa Barbara Index*, 13 Jan. 1876, p. 3.
43. *Santa Barbara Index*, 15 Jan. 1876, p. 3.
43. *Santa Barbara Index*, 22 July 1892, Supervisors Report. The Santa Barbara County Register of Deaths records Hope as having been buried in San Francisco but the 1892 newspaper reports the exhuming and removal of his remains. It seems more likely that the Death Registry was revised because it is hardly reasonable to doubt the repeated *Index* discussions of his funeral and then the 1892 entry. Perhaps the Registry entry had to do with the mysterious circumstances surrounding the death.
44. Wilberta M. Finley, Santa Barbara, letter, 31 Dec. 1967, to Mr. and Mrs. George Obern.
Wright Abstract Company, *Abstract of the Title to the Hope Ranch* (Santa Barbara, 1909).
Charles Pierce recalls a daughter of Kate's, Viola Clark, and he did know the Hope girls, especially "Aunt Annie", but Viola is not mentioned in the exhaustive *Wright Abstract*.
45. Charles Pierce.
Finley Letter.



TREASURE SALE
OCTOBER 13 - 14TH, 1972

Items to be sold at our Second Annual Treasure Sale will be gifts from our membership for that specific purpose. In order to accumulate, sort, appraise, and price these items our Committee is starting to collect these Treasures now. Will you please give us any items you can bear to part with at this time.

We will call for them, on request. Call Mrs. John Locklin, Chairman, 967-1430 or Headquarters - 966-1601.

Won't you help us?

Helen K. Deuter, 2nd Vice Pres.

THE LINCOLN HOUSE

By Anna B. Lincoln Ellis

The Lincoln House, today known as the Upham Hotel, was opened as a "select boarding house" a little over 100 years ago, making it the oldest cosmopolitan hotel in Southern California. To commemorate this longevity and its distinction in Santa Barbara history, a bronze plaque was affixed to the building with appropriate ceremonies by the Tierra de Oro Parlor 304, Native Daughters of the Golden West, on October 23, 1971. The Mistress of Ceremonies was Mrs. Eileen Dismuke, Past Grand President of the statewide organization. (See picture of gathering, page 21.)

The following was given at the Centennial celebration:

Our ancestor, Samuel Lincoln, came to the United States from Hingham, England, at the age of 18 years, in 1637. He settled in Hingham, Massachusetts. He had four sons. We are descended from his first son, Samuel; and to set the record straight, Abraham Lincoln descended from his fourth son, Mordecai, which makes us distant cousins of his.

Amasa Lincoln was born in Hingham, Mass. on September 22, 1833. At the age of 16 years he entered the banking business there . . . In June, 1862, he married Miss Abbie Smith Patrick.

In 1869 Mr. Lincoln decided to move his family west and try his hand at ranching in California. With their two sons, Lyman Amasa, six years old and Henry Patrick, four, they sailed from New York, on November 22, crossing the Isthmus by train to *The Constitution*, which sailed up the coast to San Francisco. Hearing of the wonderful ranching opportunities and climate of Santa Barbara they decided to stop enroute to Los Angeles, where they had planned to go. They arrived in Santa Barbara Monday, December 20, 1869, and took a room at the St. Charles Hotel where they were advised to take their letters of introduction to Col. W. W. Hollister, who might put them in the way of a good ranch.

By Thursday Amasa and Frank Young, a friend who had accompanied them west, were off on a three-day trip in a horse-drawn buggy to look at Tajiguas Ranch recommended by Hollister, some 30 miles out of town.

"While they were gone, Mrs. Lincoln and a school teacher by the name of Maggie Halley, went about town. In a letter to her sister Mrs. Lincoln wrote: "I am very much tempted to buy a house lot here in town with my bank money instead of investing it in a camel's hair shawl. You can get a lot in a lovely location, with a beautiful view of the sea, for \$150.00. It is a quarter of an acre. All the handsome places have been built within the year. Now is the time to do such a thing. If I could get one lot for the children and one for me adjoining, I could fence them and plant oranges and get quite an income from them until we are rich enough to have a town house or sell again."

The men came back quite enthusiastic over Tajiguas and while consummating the purchase they moved from the "expensive" hotel, taking rooms at Dr. Brigg's 2-story brick home.



Lincoln House (1872)



Lincoln House (1971)

The Court House record shows that on January 24, 1870, Amasa bought Tajiguas from Ramon Pico, A. E. Janssens, J. M. Ortega and Louis Maria Ortega.

. . . By February they were on the ranch, where there were sheep, steers, cows, chickens, horses, grape vines, olives and an old adobe house with partly dirt floors. Mrs. Lincoln did the cooking for her family and the ranch hands as well. She also gave her sons schooling.

That spring her foster mother, Abigail Putnam came out from Michigan to visit them. They must have put their heads together, as following her visit Abbie Lincoln, on July 5, 1870, bought the corner lot on De la Vina and Sola streets, No. 24 in block 77, and the lot next to it, No. 23, for her foster mother. This is the land on which the Upham Hotel now stands. The whole quarter block had belonged to the town of Santa Barbara. In 1859 Martin Kimberly had bought it. In 1869 he sold it to J. E. Goux. It was Goux who sold to Mrs. Lincoln.

November 27, 1871 the following appeared in the newspaper:

"We gladly chronicle the fact that Mr. Lincoln has commenced erection of a large two-story building on Vine Street." On January 1, 1872, progress was reported by the following:

Mr. A. L. Lincoln is erecting a substantial frame building designed for a dwelling and a private boarding house. It is located in a delightful part of town, some two blocks above the College on De la Vina street. The main portion is 30 x 44 feet; wing 16 x 24 feet; all two stories high, plastered throughout, conveniently arranged with single rooms and in suites, provided with fire places, closets, a good cellar, pantry, etc. The bath room is fitted up with modern improvements. The building is enclosed with rustic boarding and flushed with heavy cornice open and scroll, brackets, and a corridor on all sides. The observatory is neatly finished and commands a view of the whole surrounding country. No more charming site could be found for such a building, and the best of all, Mr. Lincoln knows just how to keep such a house to perfection. This will be the genteel boarding house of the place. It is a pleasant thing to be able to assure people at a distance, who wish to come to Santa Barbara, that such a house will be open to receive them.

In July Abbie purchased lots No. 21 and 22 on De la Vina street from L. F. Webster.

By that summer the boarding house was in full action.

In August 1872, while riding, Mortimer Cook and his wife were injured in an accident, being thrown from their carriage when the horse became frightened and bolted. Mr. Cook sustained broken ankles, and while his new home was under construction and his injuries were healing, he stayed at the Lincoln House. Mr. Cook's house still stands on Chapala and Sola Streets.

This brought a turning point in Mr. Lincoln's life. Mr. Cook had been operating his private bank on State Street, opposite the St. Charles Hotel. He planned to enlarge it and interested Mr. Lincoln, with his bank experience, in joining him. By May, 1873, the bank was chartered and moved to Ortega and State Streets. It became known as the First National Gold Bank. Mr. Lincoln remained with the bank as cashier until his death in 1897.

Maggie Halley, the school teacher, in 1873 bought lot No. 11 on Sola Street where the Upham Hotel annex now stands. The following year she sold the lot to Mrs. Lincoln.

In a newspaper advertisement shortly thereafter, the following description of the Lincoln House appeared:

It is situated on high ground and in a very desirable location, especially for those seeking health. The ample grounds will be fitted to afford an opportunity to the guests for the enjoyment of outdoor sports such as croquet and quoits.

There will be hygienic food for invalids. Also hot and cold baths. In connection with the house is a stable for the accommodation of those desiring a keep a saddle horse. A carriage will leave the house every hour during the day for downtown. —Dr. W. L. Harris, Proprietor.

The Lincolns continued to live there for several years. Their son John was born there in 1874. About April, 1880 they sold lote 11, 21, 22, 23 and 24 to Florence Spenser.

Six years later, in May, 1886, Florence Spenser Stokes sold the Lincoln House to John W. Cooper. A week later he bought lots No. 12 and 13 in the center of the block from Mr. Goux.

Twelve years later, on October 13, 1898, Mr. Cooper sold the entire property to Cyrus Upham, a widower from Pasadena. He changed the name to the Upham Hotel. On November 6, 1911, he sold 250'x225' of it for approximately \$40,000 to Ira Colby Goodridge. Goodridge formed the Upham Hotel Company with his two daughters, Harriet Goodridge Enlow and Elizabeth Goodridge Hall. Mrs. Hall also made the hotel her home, and with her son, John Mason Hall, managed the hotel until her death in 1969.

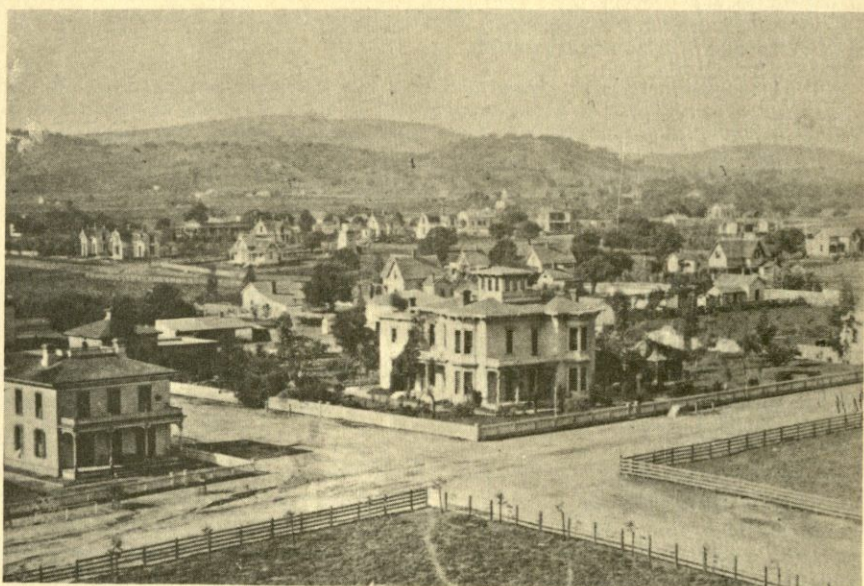
John (Jack) Hall has continued the fine traditional standards that have made the Upham so well known, especially by New Englanders, who enjoy the authentic flavor of their homes back east.

The Lincoln House was designed by the famous local architect, Peter J. Barber. The builder was John O. Eaton.

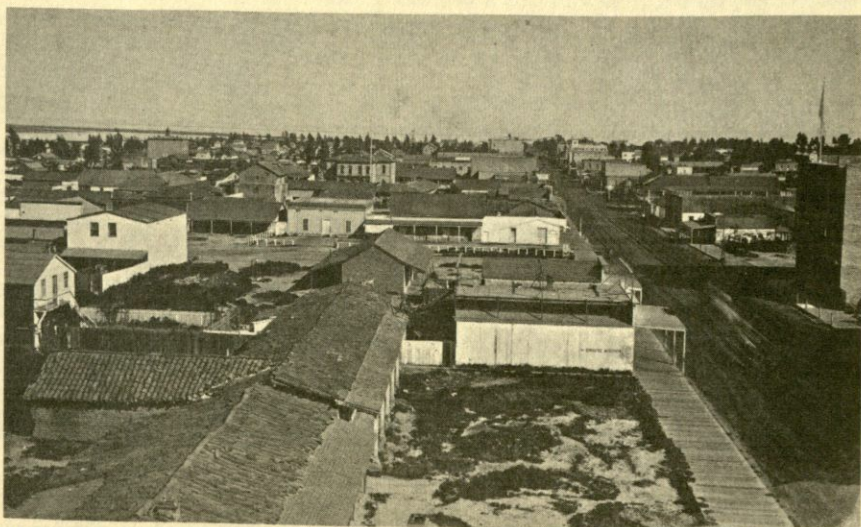


Left to right: Father Ayds (Trinity Church), Mayor Gerald Firestone, Mrs. Ben C. Desmuke, Past Grand Pres. M. C. N.D.G.W.; Lt. Col. Wm. Ellis, Ret.; Mrs. Wm. Ellis (Anna Blake Lincoln-Granddaughter of Builder); Mrs. Wm. Olafrius, Mrs. Thos. Dorsey, Mrs. Wm. Wegener (3 N.D.G.W. officers who performed the dedication.)

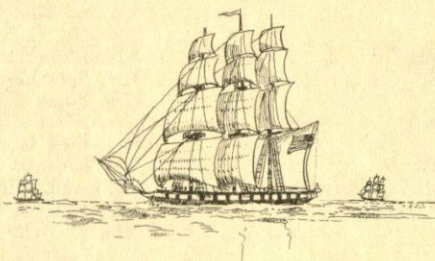
Olivarius



Mortimer Cook House (1872) Chapala and Sola (still standing)



View of Santa Barbara looking south from State and Canon Perdido (circa 1875.) City Hall and De la Guerra House (center).



**THE PRIVATE JOURNAL OF LOUIS McLANE, U.S.N.
1844 - 1848**

There are still a number of copies available of "The Private Journal of Louis McLane, U.S.N. 1844-1848", edited by Dr. J. Monaghan and illustrated by Russell A. Ruiz, published by the Santa Barbara Historical Society, 1971. This is a limited edition and priced at \$10.00 plus 50c tax.

Santa Barbara Historical Society

136 East De La Guerra Street
Santa Barbara, California 93101

Non-Profit Org.

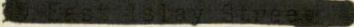
U. S. POSTAGE

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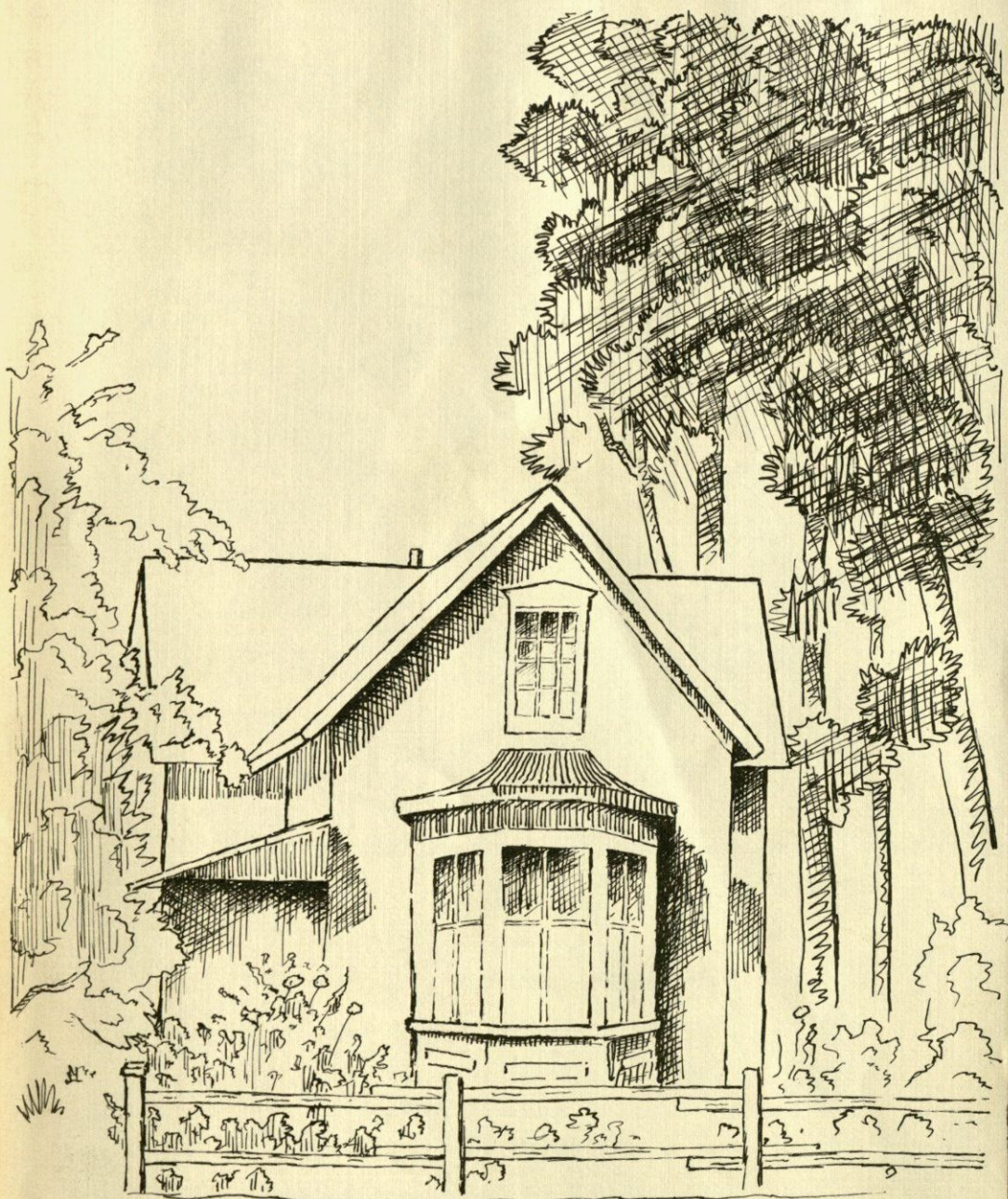
California

Permit No. 534



Santa Barbara, Calif. 93101

Santa Barbara City College Library

NOTICIAS



EDWARD W. HICKS

Santa Barbara City College Library



532 Brinkerhoff Avenue

The earliest known owner was E. C. Tallant, 1880.

The present owner is Kenneth Kahre.

COVER DRAWING

108 South Canada Street

The present owner is Primrose M. O'Hara.

August, 1972

Vol. XVIII, No. 5

FROM SINGLE-STORIED ADOBES TO TWO-STORIED WOODEN STRUCTURES

When the first Europeans came to our Channel Area, they found the so-called Natives here living in structures made by fastening native tules (reeds) to hive-shaped frames made of smallish tree branches. When these Spaniards built their chapels and living quarters, they wanted larger and stronger structures than these tule huts; and so they turned to adobe bricks oftentimes laid on foundations of stones brought from the creek beds. Necessarily, these adobe buildings were low and rather narrow; and their small rooms were lighted and ventilated by few and small windows. These homes, sometimes with a small fireplace in a corner of a room, were cool in Summer and relatively warm in Winter; and so they served their builders very well. Oftentimes, the cooking was done in adobe ovens and in pits out-of-doors. The rare earthquakes that came to the region, of course, sometimes had devastating effects on these simple structures; and so it became the custom to build the walls very thick and as low as was conveniently possible.

When the Americans — especially those who came from the Eastern Maritime States — began to build their homes in Santa Barbara, it was quite natural for some of them to turn to the red-clay bricks that on occasion, were carried as ballast in one or another of their ships. And so it happened that red-brick houses appeared here and there in this otherwise adobe community. Usually, these red-brick buildings were of two stories because two-storied homes were customary along the Eastern Seaboard and also because these new-comers had had no experience as yet with the shattering effects of big earthquakes.

When, after the Oregon Territory began to be settled and after sawmills were put into operation in the Oregon forests, a nationwide market for straight-grained pine lumber was sought. Great rafts of this newly-cut building material were bound together and towed down the Coast to the several ports of California and, in those places (such as Santa Barbara then was) where there were no wharves, they were hauled ashore through the surf and landed upon the sand of the beach. At once, wooden frame houses became the rule of the day in our community.

Oftentimes, these new houses were small and they were more or less rectangular, or boxlike, in shape. Gradually they became more and more ornate and complex both in general plan and in minor detail.

A reproduction is inserted here of a house built probably in the 1870s and now long vanished from the scene. It illustrates very well one of the more pretentious homes in Santa Barbara of a day perhaps a century ago. The photograph of it may have been taken in 1880 — give or take anything up to ten years. Like very many of these old homes, additions were made to the building

— a bay of five windows was added to what may have been its south side (as is shown in a later photograph) a pepper tree was planted and grew to a considerable size in the parking before the front door, and a climbing rose grew almost to unbelievable dimensions over the filigree about the front of the house. (The beginnings of this rose bush can be seen in the picture at the right of the front steps.)



As more visitors from the eastern portion of the Nation came to our community, especially after the completion of the trans-continental railroads, new fashions in decorations and more spacious modes of living became the accepted pattern of the day. In this connection it might be helpful to remember that, in 1846, when the United States took over the Province of California, there was not a single street, as we know the word today, in Santa Barbara; and El Camino Real bore no resemblance whatever to, shall we say, Highway 101. It was not until 1853 that Captain Haley laid out the first streets of our City by the usual surveyor's methods. After that, for some years — even decades — Mission Street was a sort of country road that led to the Old Mission. And so it was with the new fashions in decoration and the more spacious modes of living.

One of the conspicuous enlargements of these new wooden homes was the bay window, the four-window, rectangular bay that extended from the ground to the eaves. Such a bay is to be seen clearly at the front of the Tallent House — which is the first of Mr. Obert's fine pictures that are shown in this issue of Noticias. At a somewhat later date, the bay often came to have three or five windows and to be trapezoidal in shape. Still later, as our mill-work

(Continued on Back Cover)



302 West Micheltorena Street

The earliest known owner was Francis A. Baxter, 1875.

The present owner is Gretchen K. Rosenberg.

The architect was J. S. Barker.



1809 Chapala Street

The earliest known owner was Henry Penry, 1880.

The present owner is James H. Sturgeon.



131 East Arrellaga Street

The earliest known owner was N. B. Sexton, 1874.

The present owner is Bruce C. Hopper.



1730 Anacapa Street

The earliest known owner was Henry H. Hall, 1888.

The present owner is Carl G. Park.



136 West Cota Street

The earliest known owner was George Hernster, 1883-84.

The present owner is Donald Berger.



834 Santa Barbara Street

The earliest known owner was J. F. Moullet, 1896.

The present owner is Jules Moullet.



124 West Cota Street

The earliest known owner was Mary W. Pierce, 1880.

The present owner is James Smock.



15 East Valerio Street

The earliest known owner was C. W. Gorham, 1888.

The present owner is Margaret Littlejohn.

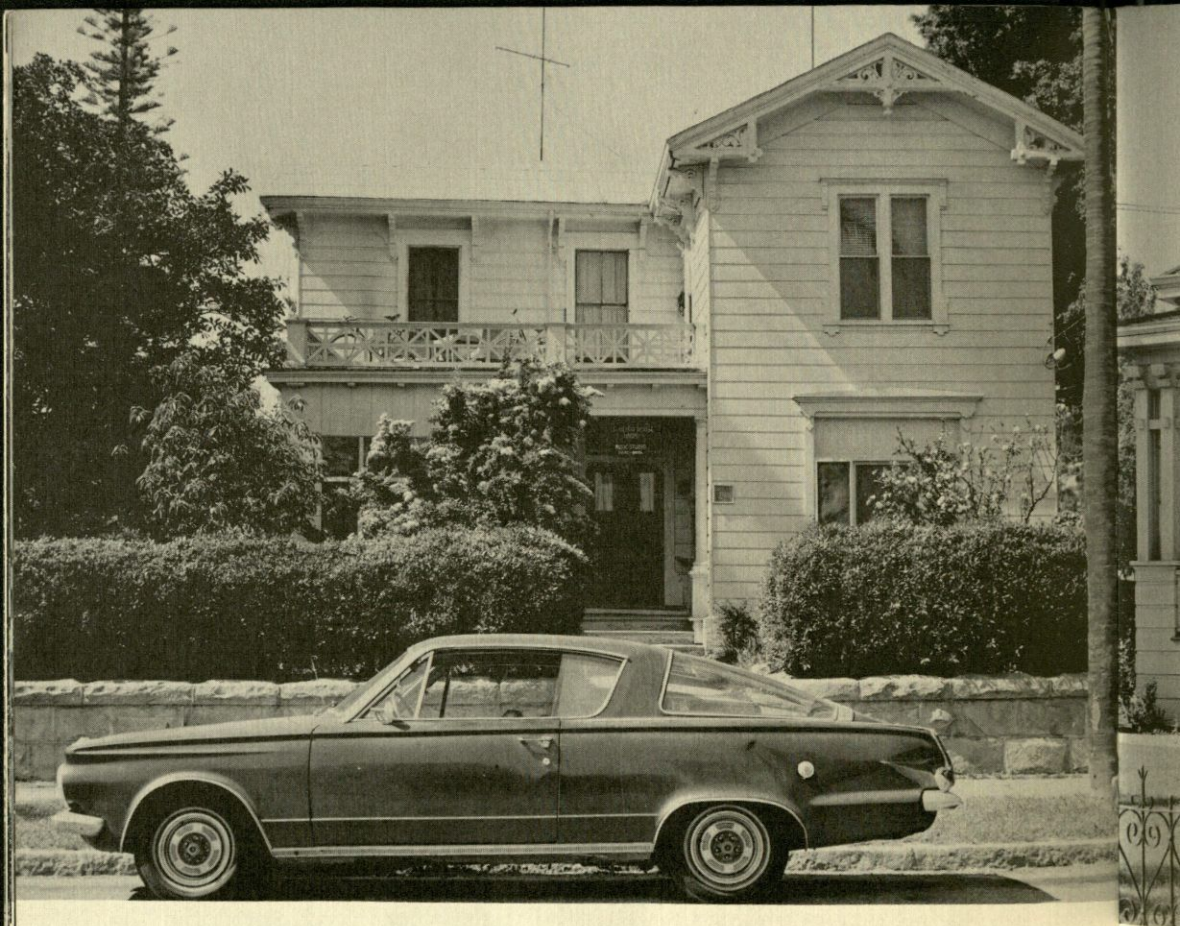


1721 Santa Barbara Street

The earliest known owner was George S. Edwards, 1888.

The present owner is Irene Pollock.

The architect was Thomas Nixon.



1605 Bath Street

The earliest known owner was Mary B. Van Winkle, 1888.

The present owner is Marguerite Gurish.



721 De la Vina Street

The earliest known owner was James Hammell, 1874-75.

The present owner is Richard E. Jespersen.



1822 Santa Barbara Street

The earliest known owner was Philip Rice, 1885.

The present owner is E. L. Kupelian.



1822 Santa Barbara Street

Typical two-section stairway to second floor.

Decorations of the living-room more modern, as the Borein etching and clock attest.

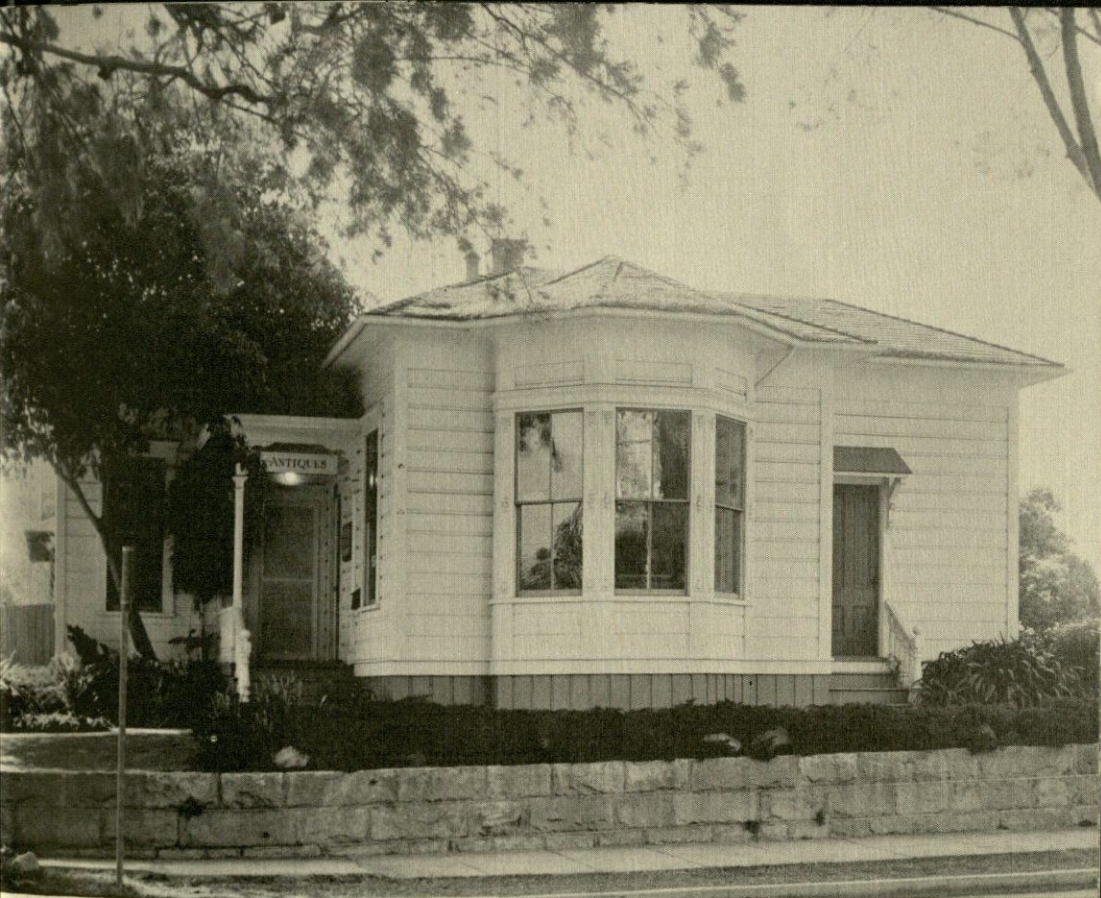


630 West Mission Street

The earliest known owner was Chauncey Tinker, 1874.

The present owner is Dr. Joseph Butera.

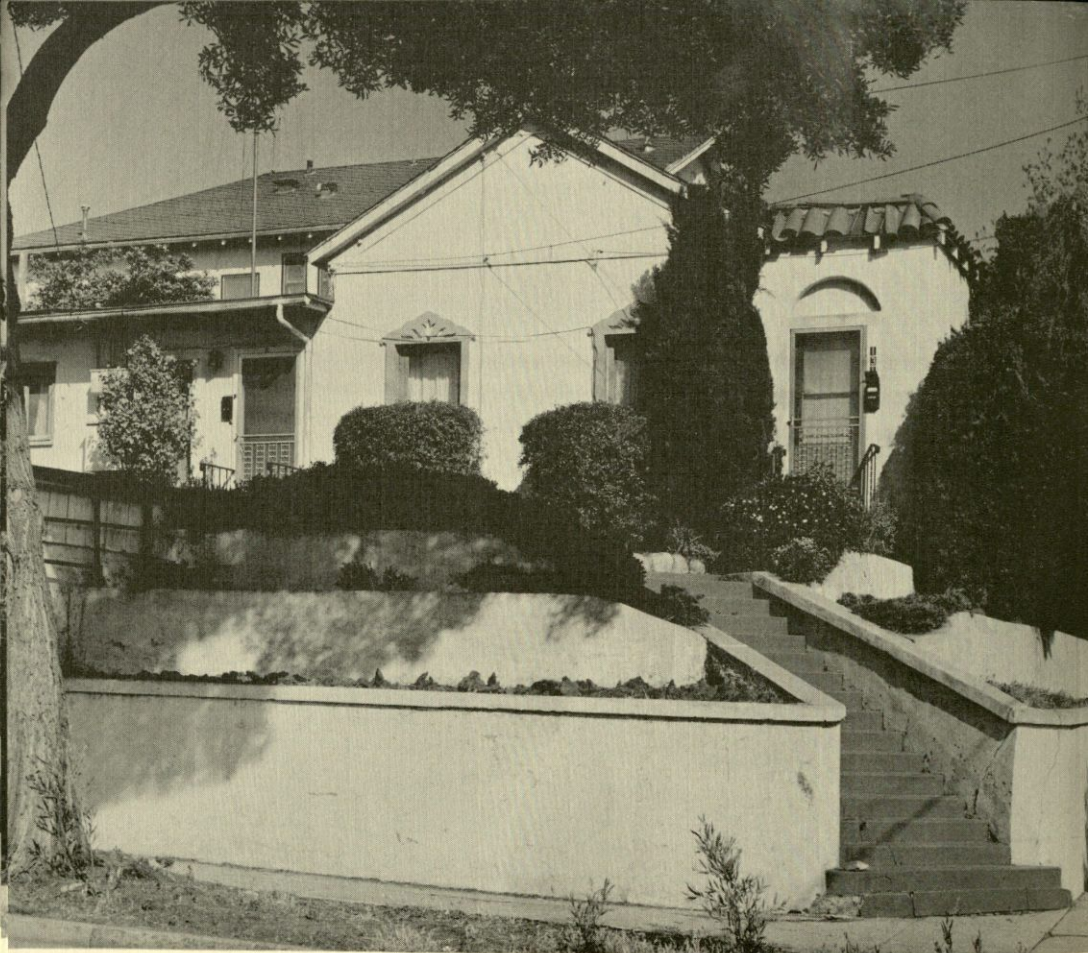
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533 Brinkerhoff Avenue

The earliest known owner was James Cook, 1880.

The present owner is Robert Livernois.



131 West Pedregosa Street

The earliest known owner was Henry Penry, 1868.

The present owner is John Dickson.

The architect was Henry Penry.

(The old brick building is much altered in appearance by additions.)



416 Montgomery Street

The earliest known owner was Alex G. Eells, 1891.

The present owner is William W. Sears.

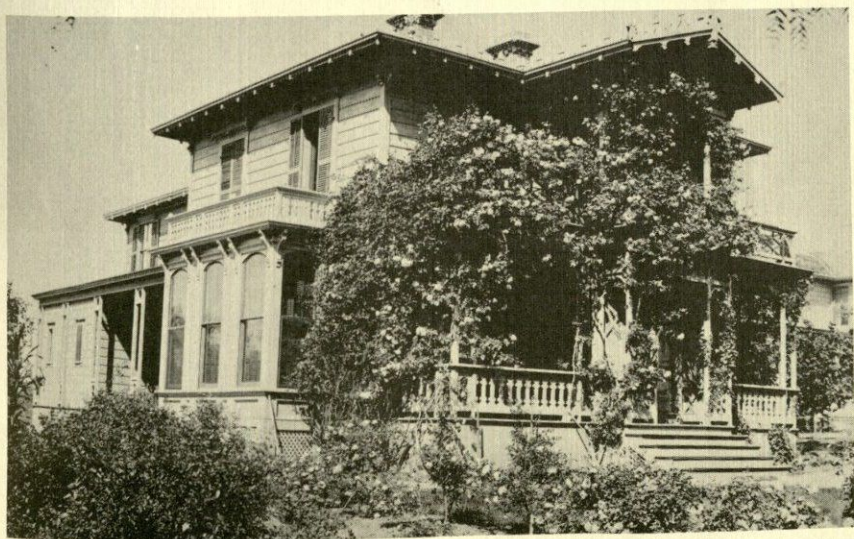


416 Montgomery Street

This picture is included in the series because of the fireplace,
which is typical of many found in our old buildings.

became better, the bay became semicircular in shape and, as often as not, it was placed at one corner of a building. And so it happened that the approximate date of one of these old houses of ours can be fixed reasonably closely by a glance at this single feature.

Another innovation, this one of rather short life, was the placing of the front entrance at the corner of the building, as is shown in the picture of the building on the north corner of the State- De La Guerra Intersection in the "Walk Down State Street, 1971," Issue of Noticias. When the "Craze For Fresh Air" took possession of Santa Barbara, a sleeping porch became almost a necessity for every family who could afford such a luxury. Hitherto unused, flat roofs were transformed into second-story sleeping porches. And in the last decade of the nineteenth century, the first "lath and plaster" houses — the "Crocker Row" in the 2000 block of Garden Street — were built. At once, this form of siding began to compete, along with shingles, with clapboards for the popular favor. And so it has happened that the "old houses" of 70s and 80s and 90s sometimes became hard to recognize for what they really are.



Most of these old houses, of course, have been replaced wholly by new and modern structures. And so the Historical Society now offers to its members this series of pictures of eighteen of these old houses, some of them greatly altered from their original appearance, that still are standing on the sites on which they originally were built.